

**NEWS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Community Action Partnership  
of San Bernardino County**



**The “Gift of Sight” Benefited Children of San Bernardino County**  
*Served over 700 children from low income families*

(San Bernardino, CA) The Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County (CAPSBC) in cooperation with The LensCrafters Foundation and The Los Angeles Eye Institute sponsored, “**The Gift of Sight**” that provided free eye exams and new glasses to the needy children in San Bernardino County. A total of 709 children, between the ages of 5-21, whose parents cannot afford vision insurance were screened and 529 received free eyeglasses. Two 40-foot Vision Van were located at the Sheriff’s Department, 655 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, San Bernardino from January 12 to 16, 2004.

“It is heartwarming to see the excitement of children seeing clearly for the first time. One child commented that he didn’t know that the grass have blades on its sides,” said Patricia L. Nickols, CAPSBC Executive Director. “Another child touched the face of one of the staff and said “I can see your face now!”

Over the past three years, the Los Angeles Eye Institute in partnership with the LensCrafters Foundation has provided vision screenings to more than 30,000 children in Southern California and given free eyeglasses to 6,500 children who could not see well enough to read.

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“We are very grateful to the eye doctors from the Inland Empire who volunteered their time to screen the children, the SB Sheriff’s Department, Laidlaw Educational Services, Cornerstone Church, Kraft Foods, Head Start, School Districts, Housing Authority, community based-agencies and non-profit organizations, all did their share to make this event a success”, said Ms. Nickols.

CAPSBC is one of the 1,000 Community Action Agencies across the United States that provides direct services to low-income individuals and families to help them become stable and self-reliant. CAPSBC is charged with serving over 800,000 low-income families and individuals, elderly, homeless and disadvantaged residents of San Bernardino County each year. CAPSBC delivers services to 78 San Bernardino County cities and communities.

For more information contact CAPSBC at 909-891-3863 or visit [www.sbcounty.gov/capsbc](http://www.sbcounty.gov/capsbc).

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